

no reasons were given. The only thing w<sup>c</sup> can be laid to my charge, is not having taken up arms; & I defy any man to say (at least to prove) that I have directly or indirectly done any thing in opposition to, or to the prejudice of the present measures. Besides if I had been ever so criminal, I surely was entitled to a hearing before condemnation. It may be necessary to inform your board of some of the persons who were present at this extraordinary transaction. Commodore Nicholson, Lieu<sup>t</sup> Aquila Johns, Cap<sup>t</sup> John Martin of the armed brig (a very busy man), David Stewart, Daniel Bowly, Charles Ridgely son John, W<sup>m</sup> Hammond, John M<sup>c</sup>Lure, Barnet Eichelberger, Doctor Baird, Doctor Swoope, Nich<sup>s</sup> Norwood, Thomas Elliot tavern keeper Fells point who I tho<sup>t</sup> seemed to assume some command, James Cox & John M<sup>c</sup>Lellan members of the Committee, & one Poe a wheelwright (who seemed at the head of the lower class) composed this body, or at least such part of it as I can at present remember—In justice to Commodore Nicholson I must observe that he declared in my presence, his sole reason for coming there was to prevent injury to our persons, & he actually forbid the people from insulting us when we went out to mount our horses—My chief reason for troubling you is that Baltimore County is deprived of a Sheriff by my expulsion, & there is a considerable number of prisoners confined in Jail who must be supply'd w<sup>t</sup> provisions, therefore you will take such steps as you may Judge proper on this occasion. After such unmerited treatment as I have experienced, I cannot again trust myself in Baltimore, nor will I come there untill times alter.

Since I left Town it has been reported that I went off in Debt to the County, w<sup>c</sup> is a scandalous falsehood. On the contrary I am considerably in advance for the year 1775, & altho' I cannot exactly say how the acco<sup>t</sup> stands for 1776 yet I am pretty certain after deducting my own claim against the County w<sup>c</sup> was allowed last levy Court, I have paid away more than I have received. I shall appoint a person of character & property to transact the collection business during my absence, w<sup>t</sup> directions to pay off the public Creditors as fast as he receives the money. I sincerely wish peace & prosperity to the Province of Maryland & am w<sup>t</sup> great respect, Sir

your most obedient Servant

Rob<sup>t</sup> Christie, Jun<sup>r</sup>

I am told Cap<sup>t</sup> Nath<sup>l</sup> Smith,  
Rob<sup>t</sup> Buchanan & Jn<sup>o</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Henry  
were all of the party.